20. (Once Amended) A microprocessor comprising:

      processing means for executing a plurality of instructions, said [processing means] <u>instructions</u> including [programming means] <u>instructions</u> for generating a value representative of a threshold temperature for said microprocessor; and

      programmable thermal sensor means coupled to said processing means for detecting temperature characteristics in said microprocessor, said thermal sensor means receiving said value for said threshold temperature and generating a detect signal when said microprocessor attains said threshold temperature.

27. (Once Amended) A microprocessor comprising:

      a processing unit for executing operations in accordance with a plurality of instructions, said processing unit including a read only memory (ROM) storing a microprogram and an internal register, said microprogram, <u>when executed,</u> generating representative of a threshold temperature for said microprocessor, and storing said value in said internal register; and

      a programmable thermal sensor coupled to said processing unit for detecting temperature characteristics in said microprocessor, said programmable thermal sensor receiving said value from said internal register for said threshold temperature and transmitting a detect signal, to said ROM and said processing unit, when said microprocessor attains said threshold temperature.

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